

# COMPETITIONS FOR 2010

This year I want the competitions to be more a series of fun based events not a 'win-at-all-costs' repeat of last year when we lost a few of our aircraft.

So I hope I have devised a few competitions with limited danger to models and competitors.

I'm hoping to hold the first event over the Easter weekend, i.e. the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of April when most people will be able to come and fly at least one of the days. Then (weather permitting) one event every month through the summer. So hopefully a minimum of six competitions ranging from slightly skilful to the downright silly.

The competitions will not just be based on skill, many will have a twist that is based on luck so you don't have to be an aerobatic "c" certificate holder to take part, as I said it is more for fun, but if people want an aerobatic competition I am willing to do one. These are not set in stone it is all about enjoying a good days flying.

The competitions are for your basic weekend fun flyer which most of us are.

## BALLOON BURST

After last years attempt to hold a balloon burst (pathetic attempt) this year we will have helium filled balloons tethered by cotton to weights. There will be four balloons at different heights, each flyer will have three passes to burst as many balloons as they can, the lower the balloon the more points scored. If the wind permits there will also be a free flight balloon released so you will have to chase and burst it in a certain time.

## SPOT LANDING

This year it will be spot landing with a twist. Every one of can land a plane, some can even put it on the big circle called a runway.

This year the skill level is still high but not as critical.

At the far end of the runway will be a line stretched across. The object is to land as normal but to stop as near to the line without going over it.

When the wheels touch down your engine must be at tick-over and throttle must not be used again to aid your rollout. If throttle is used you will be disqualified. Two attempts per pilot with the nearest being counted.

## PARACHUTE DROP

Instead of the ball drop which claimed two aeroplanes last year I had an idea passed to me from another club member to slightly change the format this time.

It involves a small plastic soldier on a plastic parachute, the release mechanism will be nearly the same i.e. a cardboard tube strapped to the plane. A target will be placed on

the runway, the idea being to get your soldier as near the target as possible. You can choose your own method of release either a roll or a loop but release can be a lot higher so avoiding vertical high speed landings.

Again a lot of luck is required to get the soldier on the runway never mind near the target. So all skill levels can compete with little danger of losing your aircraft.

## **LIMBO**

Two poles set as far apart as practically possible so as not to cause any danger to models. Stretched between the tops of these poles will be a plastic stripped ribbon. So far so good; starting two feet from the bottom of the poles will be another ribbon. The object is to fly through the gap. The bottom ribbon will get higher to close the gap. So keeping the models as far away from the hard ground as possible. The smaller the gap flown through the more points. Inverted or knife edge passes will be allowed ,one point extra to be added.

If anyone has any ideas that they would like to put forward for a competition I would love to hear them, the more fun and unusual the better. None of the above events are set in stone so if you would like to change them or add/ remove details please let me know. I want as many people to take part in as many competitions as possible and have a bit of fun, that is what I find this club is all about, fun!!!!

On a more serious note I was thinking along the lines of having a number of A and B Certificate days where people can find out what is required from them to achieve these. I have no idea how many people would be interested in doing this, or are we just interested in tearing up the sky. As members of the BMFA they actively promote the schemes to hopefully better our flying skills and the knowledge of the guidelines for our sport, therefore becoming safer flyers and our flying field a safe and more enjoyable place to be.

Please feel free to ask any questions or make comments.